

REMARKS

Claims 2-12 are pending. Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 9 has been amended. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the May 27, 2004 Final Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 2-12. The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Fujimoto, U.S. Patent No. 5,473,348 (hereinafter Fujimoto reference), taken with Matsumoto, U.S. Patent No. 5,929,839 (hereinafter Matsumoto reference), in further view of San et al., U.S. 2002/0050999 (hereinafter San reference). Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 9 has been slightly amended for reasons of form.

Applicant believes that the foregoing amendment and remarks place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

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By: 
Roger R. Wise
Registration No. 31,204
Attorney for Applicant(s)

725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800
Los Angeles, CA 90017-5406
Telephone: (213) 488-7100
Facsimile: (213) 629-1033